

Serial No. 09/396,565

Amendments to the Claims:

These claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for use ~~in conjunction~~ with a host device having a receptacle ~~associated therewith~~, the apparatus comprising:

a removable card adaptable for insertion into the receptacle ~~of the host device~~, the removable card including a first processor for running ~~at least one a first~~ application ~~that is separate from an application of the host device~~, and wherein an agent program, ~~including a known communication protocol~~, is downloaded from the removable card to the host device that includes a second processor, such that the agent program runs on a the second processor of the host device and controls communication, ~~through the known protocol~~, between the separate first application ~~running on the processor of the removable card~~ and a separate second application running on the second processor ~~of the host device~~, the second processor receiving a message from the first processor, the message identifying the agent program to be downloaded, and in response to the message the second processor downloading the agent program from the removable card via a data channel created between the removable card and the host device.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first processor ~~of the removable card~~ runs a plurality of applications, and ~~further wherein~~ a plurality of agent programs are downloaded to the host device, one for each of the applications running on the first processor ~~of the removable card~~.

Serial No. 09/396,565

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first processor of the ~~removable card~~ runs a plurality of applications, and the agent program controls communication between two or more of the applications, and at least one application running on the second processor of the ~~host device~~.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the agent program interacts with an application programming interface (API) of the host device.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the agent program controls communication between the application running on the first processor of the ~~removable card~~ and each of a plurality of applications running on the second processor of the ~~host device~~.

6. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein communications between the agent program and the application running on the ~~removable card~~ first processor are at least partially encrypted.

7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein after insertion of the removable card into the receptacle of the ~~host device~~, a command channel and a data channel are is created between the removable card and the host device.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the second processor of the ~~host device~~ runs an agent manager program for requesting a download of the agent program which ~~receives a message from the application running on the processor of the removable card, the~~

Serial No. 09/396,565

~~message identifying a particular agent program to be downloaded, and in response to the message downloads the agent program from a memory of the removable card via the data channel.~~

9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the agent program after being downloaded to the host device sends a message to the application running on the first processor of the removable card via the command channel, the message indicating that the agent program is ready to control communication between the application running on the first processor of the removable card and the application running on the second processor of the host device.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the host device comprises a digital television receiver, and the application running on the first processor of the removable card includes a processing operation for a transport stream.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the processing operation comprises a decryption operation.

12. (currently amended) A method for use ~~in conjunction~~ with a host device having a receptacle ~~associated therewith~~, the method comprising the step of:

adapting a removable card for insertion into the receptacle ~~of the host device~~, the removable card including a first processor for running at least one a first application that is separate from an application of the host device, and wherein an agent program, including a ~~known communication protocol~~, is downloaded from the removable card to the host device that

Serial No. 09/396,565

includes a second processor, such that the agent program runs on a the second processor of the host device and controls communication, through the known protocol, between the separate first application running on the processor of the removable card and a separate second application running on the second processor of the host device, the second processor receiving a message from the first processor, the message identifying the agent program to be downloaded, and in response to the message the second processor downloading the agent program from the removable card via a data channel created between the removable card and the host device.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the first processor of the removable card runs a plurality of applications, and ~~further wherein~~ a plurality of agent programs are downloaded to the host device, one for each of the applications running on the first processor of the removable card.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the first processor of the removable card runs a plurality of applications, and the agent program controls communication between two or more of the applications, and at least one application running on the second processor of the host device.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the agent program interacts with an application programming interface (API) of the host device.

Serial No. 09/396,565

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the agent program controls communication between the application running on the first processor of the removable card and each of a plurality of applications running on the second processor of the host device.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein communications between the agent program and the application running on the removable card first processor are at least partially encrypted.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein after insertion of the removable card into the receptacle ~~of the host device~~, a command channel and a data channel are is created between the removable card and the host device.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the second processor of the host device runs an agent manager program for requesting a download of the agent program which receives a message from the application running on the processor of the removable card, the message identifying a particular agent program to be downloaded, and in response to the message downloads the agent program from a memory of the removable card via the data channel.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the agent program after being downloaded to the host device sends a message to the application running on the first processor of the removable card via the command channel, the message indicating that the agent program

Serial No. 09/396,565

is ready to control communication between the application running on the first processor of the
removable card and the application running on the second processor of the host device.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the host device comprises a digital television receiver, and the application running on the first processor of the removable card includes a processing operation for a transport stream.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the processing operation comprises a decryption operation.

23. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a machine-readable storage medium containing one or more software programs which, when executed, cause implement the step of:

downloading an agent program, ~~including a known communication protocol,~~ from a removable card adaptable for insertion into a receptacle of a host device, the removable card including a first processor for running at least one a first application that is separate from an application independent of the host device, such that the agent program runs on a second processor of the host device and controls communication, through the known protocol, between the separate first application running on the first processor of the removable card and a separate the second application running on the second processor of the host device, the second processor receiving a message from the first processor, the message identifying the agent program to be downloaded, and in response to the message the second processor downloading the agent

Serial No. 09/396,565

program from the removable card via a data channel created between the removable card and the host device.

24. (currently amended) ~~An apparatus for use in conjunction with a removable card, the apparatus comprising~~ A system, comprising:

a removable card including a first processor for running a first application:

a host device having a receptacle associated therewith adaptable to receive the removable card, the host device including a second processor for running at least one a second application that is separate from an application of the host device, and wherein an agent program, including a known communication protocol, is downloaded from the removable card to the host device, such that the agent program runs on the second processor of the host device and controls communication, through the known protocol, between a separate the first application running on a processor of the removable card and the separate second application running on the processor of the host device, the second processor receiving a message from the first processor, the message identifying the agent program to be downloaded, and in response to the message the second processor downloading the agent program from the removable card via a data channel created between the removable card and the host device.

25. (canceled)